# MISGA TOURNAMENTS POLICY, INFORMATION, INSTRUCTIONS AND PROCEEDURES

#### **Purpose**

This document contains policy, information, instructions, and procedures applicable to the following annual tournaments:

- 1. Past Presidents (A,B,C,D) Championship
- 2. Two-Man Team Championship
- 3. Division Qualifying Tournaments

# POLICY

## I. Tournament Competition Committees

The MISGA Past Presidents (ABCD) Championship and the Two-Man Team Championship Tournaments shall each have a Tournament "Competition Committee." Each Competition Committee for these Championship tournaments shall include the MISGA Tournament Chairman (See MISGA Bylaws Section H), the host Club Rep, the host Division Director, the host Division Tournament Chairman, the host club Golf Pro, and any others designated by the host Division Director.

Each Division which holds an ABCD or Two-Man Team Division Qualifying Tournament, or both, should establish a Competition Committee for each of the Division Tournaments it holds. Each of the Competition Committees for the Division Qualifying Tournaments should include the Division Tournament Chairman, the Division Director, the host Club Rep, the host Club Golf Pro, and any others designated by the Division Director.

The Competition Committees for each Championship Tournament shall abide by USGA Rule 33-1, by establishing and appropriately disseminating "Conditions of the Competition," which set forth the conditions under which the Tournaments will be played, which include the requirements of eligibility for entry and method of entry.

Other issues which could or should be addressed in the "Conditions" are: equipment specifications (only driver heads and balls on USGA conforming lists), one-ball rule, starting time (and penalty rule for lateness), conditions of suspension of play (due to excessive rain and due to dangerous conditions (thunder, lightning), tie-braking method, and other issues, if warranted, such as prohibition of practice on or near putting green of last hole played, etc.

Competition Committees established by Divisions for their Division Tournaments should similarly establish and disseminate "Conditions of the Competition" for their events.

## **II.** Tournament Score Posting

Every Associate who plays in any MISGA Tournament, either Championship Tournaments or Division Tournaments, is required to properly post his scores in a timely manner. Failure to post Championship Tournament scores will result in ineligibility to participate in the following year's Championship Tournaments and may result in ineligibility to participate in following year's Division Tournaments. Failure to post Division Tournament scores may result in ineligibility to participate in the current year's Championship Tournaments.

The Competition Committees for the two MISGA Championships, in their Conditions of the Competition, will make Associates ineligible to enter and participate in those events if they failed to timely post either of the previous year's MISGA Championship scores. Such Committees will consider making Associates ineligible to participate if they failed to timely post either of their current year's Division Qualifier scores.

Competition Committees for Division Tournaments, in establishing the "Conditions of the Competition," should consider whether to make Associates ineligible to enter and participate in those events if they failed to timely post either of the previous year's Championship Tournament scores.

# **INFORMATION, INSTRUCTIONS, AND PROCEDURES**

## I. Past Presidents Tournament (ABCD)

The current MISGA President and all Past Presidents who are currently members of MISGA will be invited to participate in the Past Presidents Tournament. They will not be required to qualify, but will be required to pay the entry fee. They will be placed in the appropriate flight according to their current handicap index.

Each Division will determine the method to be used within their Division to select individuals eligible to enter the Past Presidents Tournament. (The Division's eligibility determinations will not take precedence over eligibility determinations of the Competition Committee for the Past Presidents Tournament.) The method selected must be equitable for each MISGA Associate and for each club within the Division. Selection of individuals shall be based on the percentage of Associates each club represents of the total number of Associates in his Division. Division quotas will be based on the percentage of Associates each Division represents of the total number of Associates in MISGA, as reported by the MISGA Associates Chairman in the prior December MISGA Associates Report of Dues Paid.

Division Directors, in cooperation with their Division Tournament Chairmen, will determine the method to be used for selection of individuals at the Club and Division level. Some suggested methods are a qualifying tournament, a lottery, a combination of these, etc. If a qualifying tournament is used, instructions contained herein will be followed where applicable.

All Associates who have been designated as qualified by a Division will be eligible to enter the Tournament, unless they do not meet the eligibility requirements established by the Tournament's Competition Committee. If there are any unfilled quota slots in a Division, the Division will use the following procedure in attempting to find alternate replacement players to fill those slots, starting with one qualified alternate from the club with the largest number of Associates in that Division, followed by a qualified alternate from the club with the second largest number of Associates, and so on, until all quota slots, or as many as possible, are filled. If there are any drop-outs or ineligibles determined after a Division has submitted the names of qualified players to the host Division, it will be the responsibility of the Division incurring the drop-outs or ineligible players to try to furnish replacements for those unfilled quota slots, using, to the extent feasible, the method described above. If, at this stage, unfilled quota slots remain in one or more Divisions, the host Division will attempt to find replacement players from the lists of alternate qualified players from other Divisions which held a Division Qualifier for the Championship Tournament. If unfilled quota slots remain after the host Division has exhausted all Divisions' lists of qualified replacements, the host Club Representative may select replacements from among available Associates.

Information as to dates, fees, starting times, location, mailing of entries and fees, deadline for cancellation refund, etc. shall be issued a minimum of six weeks prior to the scheduled date of the Tournament. This information shall be prepared and issued by the host Division.

The USGA handicap index for each player must be the current index for the month in which the tournament is to be played, unless the Tournament is so close to the beginning of an index revision date that the Competition Committee determines that it would be impractical for the Division Tournament Chairmen to monitor and report the participants' revised handicap indexes to the host Club in sufficient time for the host Club Professional staff to divide the field into flights and print the scorecards before the event. Each player will play at 100% course handicap. If a participant has different USGA handicap indexes at different clubs, the lowest index must be used. Handicap brackets for the flights will be determined by dividing entries into A, B, C, and D flights with approximately 25% allocated to each flight. Adjustments may be necessary to avoid having individuals with the same course handicap playing in different flights. This may result in slightly more or less that 25% of the entries in a given flight. All flights will play from the same tees, which should be placed within the normal area used by the host club for their middle (white) tees.

In order to assure that a significant number of participants are in attendance at the announcement of winners and presentation of prizes, the host club shall make every effort to complete the scorekeeping, identify the winners, and award prizes prior to the time that dinner dessert is served.

All prize money will be gift certificates to be used at the Pro Shop of the host club. Approximately 50% of the money will be awarded for low gross and 50% for low net. The overall low gross and low net winners will not received any prize money certificates, since they will each receive an engraved trophy of significant value. As soon as possible after the tournament, the engraved trophies shall be given to their respective Club Reps, who, with their Division Directors, should make appropriate presentations to the winners. In addition, they will have their name engraved on the respective silver bowl, which they may retain for one year, until the next Past Presidents Tournament. Results of the Tournament shall be submitted to the MISGA Tournament Chairman and the MISGAgram Editor as soon as possible after the Tournament. Arrangements shall be made by the host Division Tournament Chairman to have pictures taken of the winners. These pictures shall be submitted to the MISGAgram Editor for publication with the Tournament results in the next issue.

#### A. Weather Interrupted or Postponed - ABCD Tournament

Whenever possible a rain date should be provided when scheduling the Past Presidents Tournament and the Division Qualifying Tournament. If a Tournament is interrupted by weather or other circumstances and there is no alternate date provided for playing or completing the Tournament, the Committee on the Competition will decide whether a sufficient number of holes have been played to establish winners and award prizes.

In order for the Tournament to be considered official, each player must complete a minimum of nine holes that are "in common" to each player in that flight. This means that all players in a given flight will be scored on the same holes. If more than nine holes "in common" have been completed in any given flight, then all of the "in common" completed holes shall be used to determine winners. In order to apply this procedure, all players in each flight must be grouped together and start at contiguous holes. All prizes and trophies shall be awarded if the above criteria are met.

If a Tournament is postponed or the required minimum of nine holes in common are not played and cannot be played at an alternate date, all prize money and any other rebate of money from the host club shall be refunded to the players.

#### II. Two-Man Team Tournament

Each Division will determine the method to be used within their Division to select teams eligible to participate in the Two-Man Team Tournament. The method selected must be equitable for each team and each Club within the Division. (The Division's eligibility determinations will not take precedence over eligibility determinations of the Competition Committee for the Two-Man Team Tournament.) Selection of teams shall be based on the percentage of Associates each club represents of the total number of Associates in their Division quotas will be based on the percentage that each Division represents of the total number of Associates in MISGA reported by the MISGA Associates Chairman in the prior December MISGA Associates Report of Dues Paid. Team members must be from the same club. Team members must be the same two individuals who qualified. No individual substitution will be allowed for the Tournament.

Division Directors, in cooperation with their Division Tournament Chairmen, will determine the method used in selecting two-man teams at the Club and Division level. Some suggested methods are a qualifying tournament, a lottery, a combination of these, etc. If a qualifying tournament is used, the following instructions shall be followed where applicable.

Information as to dates, fee, starting times, location, mailing of entries and fee, deadline for cancellation refund, etc. shall be issued a minimum of six weeks prior to the scheduled date of the tournament. This information shall be prepared and issued by the host Division.

Each Division Tournament Chairman shall submit the names of the individuals on the teams and their USGA handicap indexes to the designated representative of the host club. The handicap index must be the current index for the month in which the Tournament is played, unless the Tournament is so close to the beginning of an index revision date that the Competition Committee determines that it would be impractical for the Division Tournament Chairmen to monitor and report the participants' revised handicap indexes to the host Club in sufficient time for the host Club Professional staff to print the scorecards before the event. In addition, each Division Tournament Chairman shall submit the same information for two alternate teams with an indication of the order in which these alternate teams shall be selected. Each player participating in the Tournament shall be allowed 90% of his rounded course handicap, the strokes to be taken as they come on the card. If the course handicaps of partners differ by more than 8 strokes, the partners' individual course handicaps will be reduced by an additional 10%, calculated in accordance with Section 9-4(b)(ii) of the USGA Handicap System Manual. If a participant has different USGA handicap indexes at different clubs, the lowest index must be used in calculating the course handicap.

All teams which have been designated as qualified by a Division will be eligible to enter the Tournament, unless they do not meet the eligibility requirements established by the Tournament's Competition Committee. If there are any unfilled quota slots in a Division, the Division will use the following procedure in attempting to find replacement teams to fill those slots, starting with one qualified alternate team from the club with the largest number of Associates and one alternate team from the next largest, and so on, until all quota slots, or as many as possible, are filled. If there are any drop-outs or ineligibles determined after a Division has submitted the names of qualified two-man teams to the host Division, it shall be the responsibility of the Division incurring the drop-out or ineligible teams to attempt to furnish replacement teams, for those unfilled quota slots, using, to the extent feasible, the method described above. If, at this

stage, unfilled quota slots remain in one or more Divisions, the host Division shall attempt to find replacement teams from the lists of alternate qualified teams from other Divisions which held a Division Qualifier for the Tournament.

All teams shall use the middle (white) tees for play in this tournament. The tee markers should be placed within the normal tee area used by the host club for their middle men's tees. In order to assure that a significant number of participants are in attendance at the presentation of prizes, the host club will make every effort to complete the scorekeeping, identify the winners, and award prizes prior to the time that dinner dessert is served.

All prize money will be gift certificates to be used at the Pro Shop of the host club. The first and second place teams will not receive prize money certificates, since they will be awarded engraved trophies, which are of significant value. As soon as possible after the Tournament, the engraved trophies shall be given to their respective Club Reps, who, with their Division Directors, should make appropriate presentations to the winners. Results of the Tournament shall be submitted to the MISGA Tournament Chairman and the MISGAgram Editor as soon as possible after the Tournament. Arrangements shall be made by the host Division Tournament Chairman to have pictures taken of the first and second place teams. These pictures shall be submitted to the MISGAgram Editor to the MISGAgram Editor for publication with the Tournament results in the next issue.

#### A. Weather Interrupted or Postponed - Two-Man Team Tournament

Whenever possible, a rain date should be provided when scheduling the Two-Man Team Tournament and the Division Qualifying Tournament. If a Tournament is interrupted by weather or other circumstances and there is no alternate date provided for playing or completing the Tournament, the Competition Committee will decide whether a sufficient number of holes have been played to establish winners and award prizes.

In order for the Tournament to be considered official, each and every team must have completed a minimum of nine holes. If more than nine holes have been completed by each team all of the completed holes shall be used in determining score, provided that the same number of holes are used for each team. For example, if thirty teams have completed twelve holes and thirty-four teams have completed eleven holes, then only the first eleven holes played by each team shall be used in determining each team score. All prizes and trophies shall be awarded if the above criteria are met. If a tournament is postponed or the required nine holes are not played and cannot be played on an alternate date, all prize money and any other rebate of money from the host club shall be refunded to the players.

#### III. Tie Breaking Procedure - for ABCD and Two-Man Team Tournaments

The procedure for deciding ties shall be announced prior to play and shall be applicable to both MISGA Championship Tournaments and the Division Qualifying Tournaments. The tie breaking procedure shall be based on a match of cards for low gross and low net for the ABCD Tournaments and for low net for the Two-Man Team Tournaments. The initial match of cards shall be based on the best score for the last nine holes (10-18). If the tying players have the same score for the last nine holes, determine the winner on the basis of the last six holes (13-18), last three holes (16-18), and finally the 18<sup>th</sup> hole. If a tie still exists, match the number one handicap hole and so on until a tie is broken. It is requested that the host club report on any time delays in scoring and determining winners encountered when using this tie breaking procedure.

In an interrupted official Tournament (see I.A. and II.A. above), ties shall be broken by match of cards of the "in common" holes completed by the participants. This shall be accomplished by matching the highest ranked handicap hole of the "in common" complete holes, the next highest ranked, and so on, until the tie is broken.